(b) The number of passengers carried by Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three years was as under:

	Air India	Indian Airlines
1990-91	21,61,364	78,65,819
1989-90	22,46,204	98,48,985
1988-89	21,22,573	1,01,09,697

Setting up of Airport at Sibsagar, Assam

740. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up of an airport at Sibsagar, Assam;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) The National Airports Authority has no plan to construct any new airport in Sibsagar, Assam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Traffic potential commercial viability of the operations availability of resources and their development fleet availability and plan of operation of scheduled airlines, are the factors relevant to determine requirement of construction of a new airport. Sibsagar does not satisfy the critera hence there are no plans to construct a new airport there.

Operation of East West Airlines from Bombay

741. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the East West Airlines to operate from Bombay;

(b) what are the routes permitted for this private Airlines;

(c) what is the number of Boeings and Airbuses that have been permitted to fly by this company; and

(d) whether the operation of Indian Airlines will be affected thereby?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Air Taxi Operators are free to operate to any airport open to scheduled operation in the country. East-West Airlines has recently obtained a permit to operate Air Taxi services and has presently one Boeing-737 aircraft.

(d) No, Sir.

Circuits-cum-destinations in the country

742. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 153 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2-12-91 and state:

(a) whether Government have identified new circuits-cum-destinations in the country for special development of tourism;

(b) if so, names of these circuits-cum-destinations; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to develop these circuits-cum-destinations to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement of circuits-cum-destinations proposed for intensive development is attached (*See* below).

(c) Surveys have been commissioned to assess the infrastructural facilities required at these circuits-cum-destinations in order to cater to increased tourist inflows. Action on developing these circuits-cum-destination would be taken on the basis of these surveys.

Statement

Travel Circuits

1. Kulu-Manali-Leh
2. Gawalior-Shivpuri-Orcha- Khajuraho
3. Bagdogra-Sikkim-Darjeeling-Kalimpong
4. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark
5. Hydcrabad-Nagarjunasagar- Tirupati
6. Madras-Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry
7. Rishikesh-Narender Nagar-Gangotri-Badrinath
8. Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar- Omkareshwar-Mandu
9. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Barmer

Destinations

1. Lakshadweep Islands
2. Andaman Islands
3. Manali (Solang/Nalah)
4. Bekal Beach
5. Muttukadu Beach
6. Kangra (Pong Dam)

द्वीपीय सैरगाहों का विकास

743. श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल
डा० वापू कालदाते :

क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री 25 नवम्बर, 1991 और 2 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न क्रमश: 214 और 930 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने विदेशी पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए द्वीपीय सैरगाहों संबंधी एक आकर्षित करने के लिए द्वीपीय सैरगाहों संबंधी एक योजना बनाई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना के अंतर्गत कौन-कौन से द्वीपों का विकास किया जाएगा ; और

(ग) विदेशी पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए अन्य कौन-कौन सी योजनायें बनाई गई ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) लक्षद्वीप में थिकारा और चेरियम में द्वीप विहार-स्थल के विकास के लिए निविदायें आमंत्रित की गई हैं।

(ग) इनमें शामिल हैं—पर्यटन आधारिक संरचना का सुधार, पर्यटन आकर्षणों का विविधिकरण, नए यात्रा परिपथों का विकास, प्रचार और विपणन कार्यकलापों को सुदृढ़ करना और पर्यटन क्षेत्र का समग्र सुधार।

Purchase of cheaper aircrafts for VVIPs

744. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to buy cheaper aircrafts for use of VVIPs for their visits in the country and for their foreign tours;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the number and type of the aircrafts proposed to be purchased, the cost involved and the anticipated period of delivery of the aircrafts, the manner in which these aircrafts would be utilised when not in use; and

(c) the extent to which the annual expenditure is anticipated to be economised as a result thereof?